

# ACA

**Alabama  
College  
Association**

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## *Message from the President*

*Hear ye! Hear ye!*

## ACA convention features new look

Have you heard the latest news? The Alabama College Association's annual convention contains many new features! Let's see what they are!

First, the Executive Committee has approved a new Constitution, subject to ratification at this convention. The most obvious change approved in our proposed amended Constitution incorporates the Teaching and Learning Symposium as our second annual professional development event sponsored by ACA annually. As it stands now, the Teaching and Learning Symposium will officially end its transitional year once the proposed amended Constitution is ratified. Additionally, there are several other organizational changes that will be highlighted during our Business Meeting. Thus, as an organization, the ACA continues to work progressively as it strives to meet the needs of its consumers through professional staff development.

Second, as a full-fledged "responsibility" of ACA, the Teaching and Learning Symposium will be planned completely by the Executive Committee with the assistance of the Special Commission on Teaching and Learning. Of course, the quality of the symposium will remain first-rate.

Third, the annual convention of the Alabama College Association has been moved to a new time of year. Previously, our annual conventions have been held in November. However, the present convention takes place in March. As usual, we are anticipating continued success and productivity with our conventions.

Fourth, we also have a new time for starting our convention. In the past, we

have planned our first day of full activities on the second day of our convention, a Monday, following the Chancellor's Awards on Sunday afternoon.

The present convention will hold its First General Session at 1:00 p.m. on the first day of the convention, which is Wednesday, March 24. Anticipate an exciting day of activities! The remaining two days of the convention promise to prick your interest also. As usual, the convention will end at noon, but on Friday.



*Dr. Brenda  
Kennedy*

Fifth, the annual convention has donned a new format. Previously, during the second day of our annual convention, Interest Groups provided presenters to address their respective groups' disciplines. However, the present convention will cut across discipline lines and simply provide professional development workshops that run concurrently. Participants will select from a wide variety of topics in choosing sessions to attend or they may shop around and attend several sessions during the allotted time period. Hopefully, these professional development workshops will be of great benefit to you.

Finally, for the first time in its history, the annual convention will host the monthly meeting of the State Board of Education. Please come to observe "your" School Board in action to witness how they make policies we implement at our respective institutions.

Well, that's about it! Come join us on March 24-26, 1999, at the Sheraton Hotel and Birmingham-Jefferson Civic Center, commencing at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 24th, as we welcome "The Dawn of a New Millennium".



## 1999 ACA Conference

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**Dr. Brenda J. Kennedy**  
*President*

**Dr. Mike Bailey**  
*First Vice President/President Elect*

**Dr. Nancy W. Chandler**  
*Second Vice President*

**Dr. Linda Hooton**  
*Treasurer*

**Dr. Martha Allen**  
*Immediate Past President*

**EX-OFFICIO OFFICERS**

**Mr. Roger Chandler**  
*Door Prizes Coordinator*

**Dr. Gary Branch**  
*Entertainment Chair*

**Dr. Terry Hazzard**  
*Entertainment Vice-Chair*

**Dr. Jim Thompson**  
*Evaluation Coordinator*

**Dr. Jim Krudop**  
*Executive Assistant to the President*

**Dr. Perry Ward**  
*Executive Assistant to the President*

**Mr. Maurice Moore**  
*Facility Assignment Coordinator*

**Ms. Marthanne Brown**  
*Food Services Coordinator*

**Ms. Betty Marks**  
*Historian/Registration Coordinator*

**Ms. Connie Branch**  
*Parliamentarian*

**Ms. Barbara Anne Spears**  
*Publications Officer*

**Ms. Marilyn Webb**  
*Secretary*

**Ms. Deborah Schaus**  
*Vendors Coordinator*

**Rep. Betty Carol Graham**  
*Legislative Chair*

**Dr. Ulysses McBride**  
*Legislative Vice-Chair*

**Mr. John Reutter, III**  
*Teaching & Learning Chair*

**Mr. Mark Shope**  
*Administration Chair*

**Mr. John Fergus**  
*Administration Vice-Chair*

**Mr. Randall Cox**  
*Faculty Chair*

**Ms. Lynn Newell**  
*Faculty Vice-Chair*

**Ms. Sundra S. Smith**  
*Students Chair*

**Dr. Frederick E. Williams**  
*Students Vice-Chair*

**Ms. Janie Balams**  
*Support Chair*

**Ms. Rosalind Myles**  
*Support Vice-Chair*

**EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS**

**Dr. Richard Federinko**  
*Presidents' Representative*

**Dr. Jorge Kuzmicic**  
*Postsecondary Representative*

**Ms. Brenda Carter**  
*ACHE Representative*

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m.

12:30 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

12:30 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

12:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

1:00 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.

3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

6:00 p.m.

Registration and Vendor Exhibits

College Music

"Meet our Keynoter" and Book Signing

Dr. Freeman Hrabowski

Newcomers Meeting

Chancellor's Art Exhibit

First General Session

First Keynote Address, Dr. Freeman Hrabowski

Chancellor's Awards

Executive Committee Dinner

Thursday, March 25, 1999

7:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon

7:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

7:30 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.

8:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.

9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

3:15 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

9:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.

Registration

Vendor Exhibits

College Music

Second General Session

Second Keynote Address, Dr. George Autry

State Board of Education Session

Lunch

Commission & Elections

Concurrent Workshops

Reception

Dance

Friday, March 26, 1999

8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

College Music

Third General Session

Governor's Address

Chancellor's State of Postsecondary

Education Address

A Business & Industry Perspective

Fourth General Session

Business Meeting

Adjourn

11:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon



# Our keynote speakers ...



Hrabowski

Freeman A. Hrabowski, III, has served as president of the University of Maryland Baltimore County since May 1992. He joined the University in 1987, serving first as vice provost then as executive vice president.

The UMBC campus has 10,000 students, 425 full-time faculty, an operating budget of \$175 million, and over \$45 million in external contract and grants for research and training. UMBC actively promotes economic development through its research,

technology commercialization, and strong connections with the corporate community.

Born in 1950 in Birmingham, Hrabowski graduated at 19 from Hampton Institution with highest honors in mathematics. He received his M.A. in mathematics and, at age 24, the Ph.D. in higher education administration/statistics from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Hrabowski serves as a consultant to the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, the National Academy of Sciences, where he is a member of the Academy's Council of Government-University-Industry Research Roundtable, the U.S. Department of Education, and universities and school systems nationally. Also, he is a member of numerous boards, including the American Council on Education. He participated in both the Greater Baltimore Committee's Leadership Program and Leadership Maryland. Hrabowski is the past president of the Maryland Humanities Council and has served as a member of the Governor's Commission on State Taxes & Tax Structure (Linowes Commission), the Governor's Maryland Economic Growth Task Force, and Co-chair of the Governor's Transition Policy Group on Education.

Examples of recent awards include the BETA Award (Baltimore's Extraordinary Technology Advocate), the Henry Al Rosenberg, Sr. Distinguished Citizen Award (to be awarded), The Andrew White Medal (Loyola College of Maryland), the Hatikvah (The Jewish National Fund), The Educator Achievement Award (NSF), the Outstanding Science Educator (Eli Lilly & Company), and the U.S. Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics, and Engineering Mentoring.

Hrabowski was instrumental in forming the Governor's Academy for Mathematics, Science, and Technology. His research and publications focus on science and math education with special emphasis on issues involving minority participation. He is co-author of the book *Beating the Odds*, focusing on parenting and high-achieving African American males in science, and published by Oxford University Press in 1998.



Autry

George B. Autry, a native of Wilmington, N.C., was educated at Duke University (A.B., 1958), at the Duke University Law School (J.D., 1961), and at the George Washington University Graduate School of Public Law.

Following his years at Duke, Autry received a University of North Carolina Richardson Foundation Congressional Fellowship and later became Chief Counsel and Staff Director of Sam Ervin's U.S. Senate

Subcommittee on Constitutional Rights.

Autry is a member of the editorial board of the Forum for Applied Research and Public Policy; the board of directors of the Sam J. Ervin, Jr. Memorial Library; the board of trustees of the University of North Carolina at Wilmington; the advisory board of the Pew Charitable Trusts' public journalism initiative; and the Ford Foundation-sponsored Task Force on the Role of the Community College in Rural America. He is former Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Lucy Daniels Center for Early Childhood and current Chairman of the Southern Education Foundation Task Force on Education and Economic Development.

He has written for the *New York Times*, *Philadelphia Inquirer*, and *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, and is a frequent contributor to the North Carolina press and the scholarly press on economic and workforce development issues.

Autry is founding president of MDC, a private, nonprofit research firm specializing since 1967 in economic and workforce development policy.

Recent MDC reports include *The State of the South 1998*, released on Labor Day; *Greater Expectations: The South's Workforce Is the South's Future*; *America's Shame, America's Hope: Twelve Million Youth at Risk* (the report which inspired Bill Moyers' PBS special, "All Our Children"); and *Shadows in the Sunbelt*.

**Don't miss these inspirational  
and informative speakers  
at ACA Convention '99,  
The Dawn of a New Millennium,  
March 24-26**



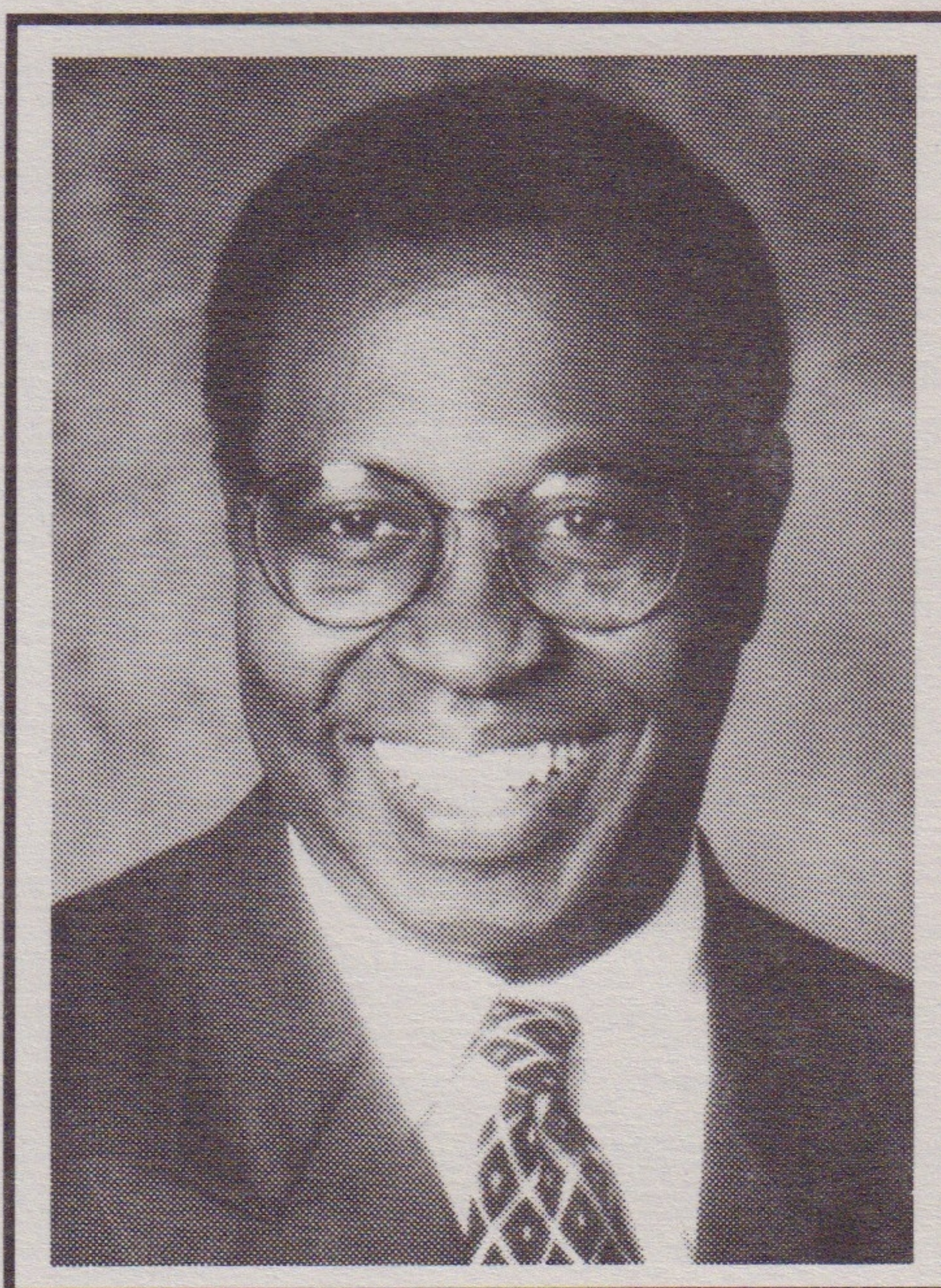
*Message from the Chancellor*

# New millennium brings change, challenge to colleges

As the world prepares to welcome a new century, two-year colleges in Alabama and across the nation face what is the most exciting time of their history. Rarely in the long and successful saga of the development of two-year colleges have the opportunities been more abundant, or the challenges more significant. The impact of technology on society has had incalculable effects on two-year colleges and the students they serve. This is brought sharply into focus by reflecting on the fact that there is more computer power in the PCs now owned by many of our students than there was on the first satellite to the moon. Technology is changing the way two-year colleges educate their students in Alabama and elsewhere. And the students themselves are transforming the two-year college mission and structure as we prepare to enter the next century.

Two-year colleges in Alabama on the dawn of the 21st century are truly a bridge to the new millennium. Today's two-year colleges in Alabama have become more than ever a significant element in local and state economic development. They have become centers of access and equity, community involvement, and lifelong learning. Alabama's two-year colleges rank among the highest in the nation in the percentage of the population enrolling in at least one credit course. Two-year colleges are rightfully proud of their success in reaching out to our communities and aggressively meeting the needs of students and taxpayers. This focus on the community, on local people, on teaching and learning, will continue to distinguish Alabama's two-year colleges from other postsecondary institutions as we enter the 21st century.

Today, students of Alabama's two-year colleges are all ages and come from all cultural and ethnic backgrounds. Nationally, more than 48 percent of all minority undergraduate students enrolled in higher education attend two-year colleges. In Alabama, 28 percent of all students in two-year colleges are minority students. Fifty-six percent of Alabama two-year college students are women. Less than 11 percent of Alabama's two-year college students are the traditional, fresh-from-high school undergraduate students characteristic of the student population



Dr. Fred Gainous

only a few years ago. Eighteen percent of Alabama two-year college students are over 40. Thirty-five percent are over 30. The average age of Alabama two-year college students is 29. Today, 44 percent of Alabama's two-year college students are part-time students. In addition, 39 percent of Alabama's two-year college students are members of special populations, such as single parents, displaced homemakers, and the economically disadvantaged. Nationally, 46 percent of two-year college students hold full-time jobs. In Alabama, it is estimated that even greater numbers of two-year college students hold jobs. Up to 78 percent of our students, in fact, are employed either full-time or part-time. These all represent trends which will accelerate as we enter the 21st century.

This means that as we bridge the 21st century, increasingly greater numbers of our students, even a majority of our students, will

have family commitments and jobs during the period when traditionally scheduled daytime classes are held. Accordingly, two-year colleges are increasingly characterized by evening and weekend classes, classes offered via television, two-way video, and the Internet. This accounts for the fact that as much as 61 percent of the total undergraduate enrollment in higher education in Alabama is comprised of two-year college students as the 21st century unfolds.

Getting the right education is crucial to moving ahead in today's complex global economy. As Alabama companies compete in the global economy, they continue to upgrade the requirements of the workforce. Increased emphasis is placed on improved education, and many students seek retraining to keep pace in their fields. Others want or need to switch careers. Still others desire to keep or improve their positions at their current jobs, while some students pursue higher education to fulfill personal goals. Each year, nearly 100,000 students seek education and training within The Alabama College System. They all share the same need to balance the demands of education with work and family responsibilities. Our colleges offer them an opportunity to meet that challenge successfully, and in turn help our state meet its challenges in creating a bridge for the next millennium.



# New conference format includes concurrent sessions

The ACA annual conference has changed format this year. In lieu of interest group speakers, the conference will feature concurrent sessions this year, allowing attendees a choice of speakers and interest areas from which to choose. However, some interest groups have requested an interest group meeting; those meetings will be held during the concurrent sessions. Concurrent sessions will be held on Thursday, March 25 following commission meetings.

Schedule for Thursday afternoon is as follows:

## 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Commission Meetings and Elections

1:30 p.m. - 1:45 p.m. Elections

1:45 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Speakers

Administration -- Dr. John Gardner

Students -- Dr. John Gardner (combined session with Administration)

Faculty -- Dr. Terry Whisenant or Dr. James Varn

Support -- Ms. Sylvia Kelly

3:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.

Break

3:15 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

## Concurrent Sessions

3:15 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

1. Ms. Sally Covington & Ms. Dee Shields, "Marketing & Public Relations"

2. Mr. Jack Nutter, "Technical Training Aids/McGraw-Hill High Technology Training"

3:15 p.m. - 4:10 p.m.

1. Dr. James Varn, "Technology to Support Learning"

2. Mr. Jeff Foshee/Ed George, "Hiring Retirees of the Alabama College System"

3. Mr. Chris Yurich, "Intro to Computer Based Training"

4. Mr. Richard Scrushy, "The Two-Year College Student: Vision 1999-2000"

5. Dr. Charles Setta Shelton, "Coping Strategies for Life's Juggling Act"

6. Dr. John Gardner, "Retention"

7. Ms. Shirley L. Barnes, "Developing Good Communication Skills in the Workplace"

3:15 p.m. - 3:40 p.m.

1. Art Interest Group, Dr. Bethany Engle, "Why We Fail As Art Instructors"

2. English Interest Group

3. Cosmetology Interest Group, Ms. Jean Stockman and Ms. Jean Parker

State Board Exam Panel Discussion

4. EMS Interest Group

5. Resource Development Interest Group

6. Welding Interest Group, Mr. James Ivy, "AWS Student Chapter

Intermediate Level Program"

7. Nursing/Allied Health Interest Group, Ms. Barbara McCant

"Allied Health Programs and the Semester Conversion"

8. Ms. Sandra Ray, "The Nontraditional College Student"

9. Ms. Merceria Ludgood, "The New Millennium: What's Ahead for Education - Legally"

10. Dr. Charles Lake, "Technology in the Classroom"

3:45 p.m. - 4:10 p.m.

1. Ms. Sandra Ray, "The Nontraditional College Student"

2. Ms. Merceria Ludgood, "The New Millennium: What's Ahead for Education - Legally"

3. Dr. Charles Lake, "Technology in the Classroom:"

4:20 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

1. Ms. Marcella Morgan, "Workforce Directions"

2. Dr. Charles Setta Shelton, "Coping Strategies for Life's Juggling Act"

3. Dr. James Varn, "Technology to Support Learning"

4. Mr. Jeff Foshee/Ed George, "Legal Issues in Education"

5. Dr. Bert Slafter, Dr. Rod Britt, Dr. Joe Morris, and Mr. Keith Sessions

"Articulation Transfer for Faculty Advisors"

6. Mr. Don Kelly, "Alabama Virtual Library"

7. Mr. Bill Reynolds, "Training for the 21st Century -- the Boeing Model"

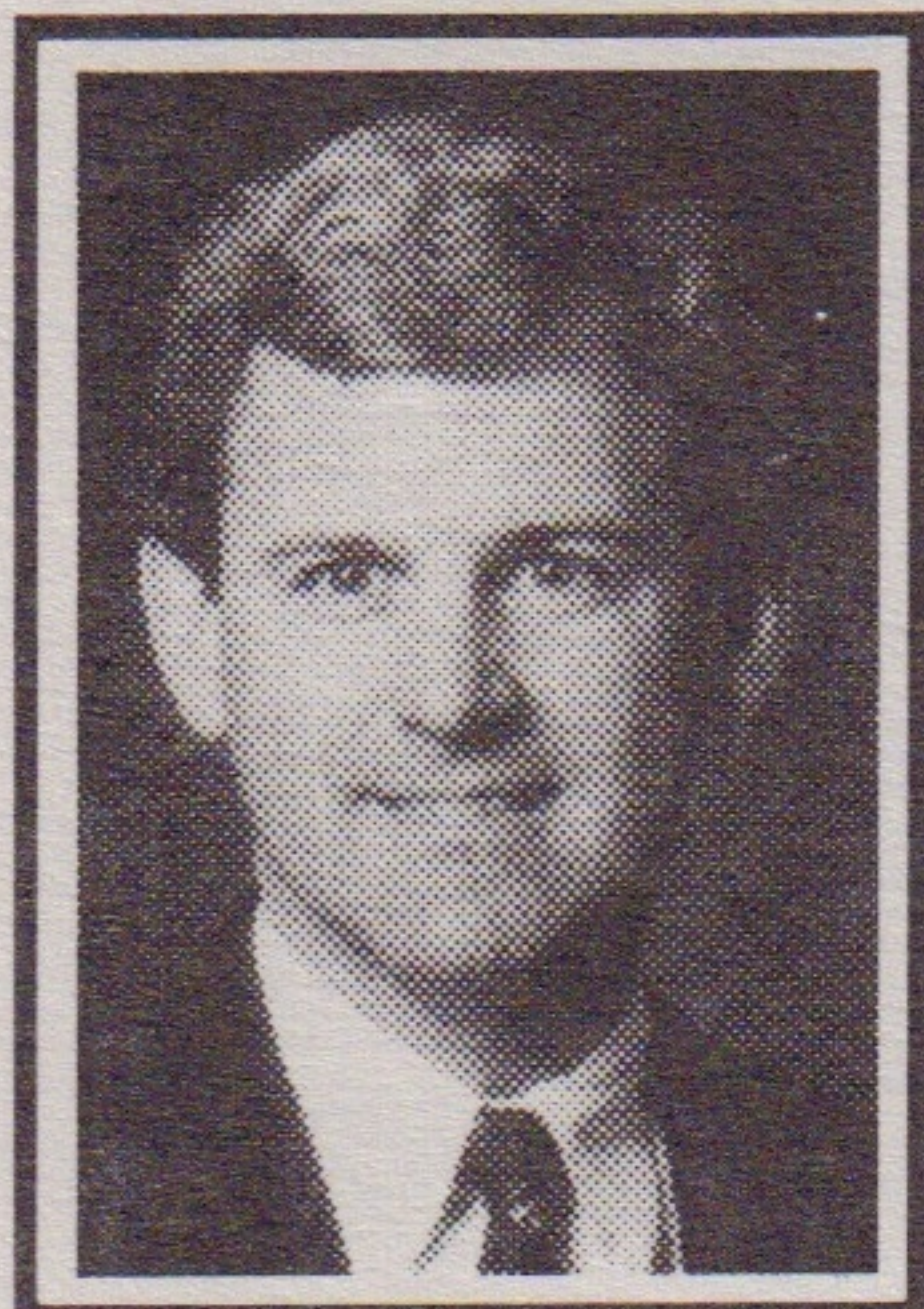
8. Dr. Matthew Hughes, "Workforce 21 Update"

9. Dr. Al Miles, "The Americans with Disabilities Act"



# State Board meeting to be featured at conference

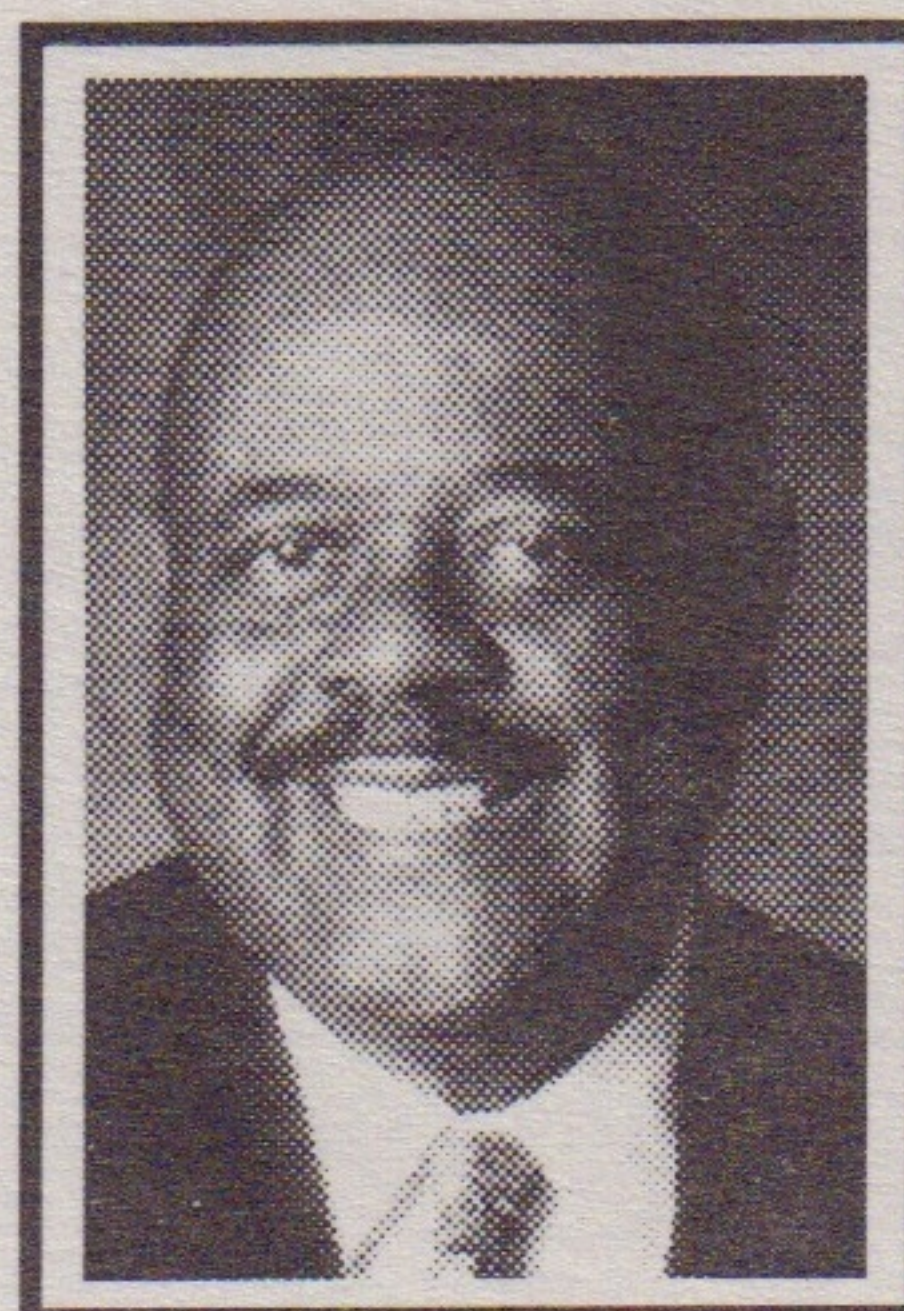
Governor Don Siegelman is president of the Alabama State Board of Education



Byrne

## District I

Mr. Bradley Byrne  
P.O. Box 2846  
Mobile, AL 36652  
Phone ... 334/432-3444



Paul

## District V

Dr. Willie J. Paul  
4309 Sunnybrook Drive  
Montgomery, AL 36108  
334/288-1769

## District II

Mr. G.J. "Dutch" Higginbotham  
775 Moore's Mill Road  
Auburn, AL 36830  
Phone ... 334/887-5528



Higginbotham

## District VI

Mr. David F. Byers, Jr.  
Capital Strategies  
2 Metroplex Drive, Suite 111  
Birmingham, AL 35209  
205/933-0853



Byers



Bell

## District III

Mrs. Stephanie W. Bell  
3218 Lancaster Lane  
Montgomery, AL 36106  
Phone ... 334/272-2777



Ray

## District VII

Mrs. Sandra Ray  
1019 21st Avenue  
Tuscaloosa, AL 35401  
205/758-7777

## District IV

Dr. Ethel H. Hall, vice president  
7125 Westmoreland Drive  
Fairfield, AL 35064  
Phone ... 205/923-6093



Hall

## District VIII

Dr. Mary Jane Caylor  
2345 County Road 67  
Scottsboro, AL 35768  
256/228-6822



Caylor



## Vendors to exhibit at ACA Conference '99

The following vendors will display exhibits at the ACA Conference this March:

- |                                                                 |                                                                  |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Athens State University                | <input type="checkbox"/> Samford University                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Auburn University                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Systems & Computer Technology           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Auburn University/Montgomery           | <input type="checkbox"/> Teachers' Retirement System of Alabama  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Birmingham-Southern College            | <input type="checkbox"/> Technical Training Aids, Inc.           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carolina School and College Products   | <input type="checkbox"/> The University of Alabama               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Glencoe/McGraw-Hill                    | <input type="checkbox"/> The University of Alabama in Huntsville |
| <input type="checkbox"/> International Thomson Publishing (ITP) | <input type="checkbox"/> University of North Alabama             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jacksonville State University          | <input type="checkbox"/> University of West Alabama              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Just Jewelry                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Valic                                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Learning Labs, Inc.                    |                                                                  |

The Alabama College Association thanks these vendors for their participation in and support of our 1999 conference.

## Colleges contribute door prizes for ACA Conference

Door prizes have become an important and exciting part of the Alabama College Association conference each year. In addition to motivational and instructive speakers, attendees can look forward to the possibility of winning valuable prizes.

Last year, prizes which could be used in the workplace were so well-received that the door prize committee is focusing on such prizes for this year's conference. With technology at the forefront of everyone's mind as we enter the new millennium, door prizes this year center on items which can be used to assist the recipient in his job or home office.

Prizes secured by Roger Chandler, door prize coordinator, to date include two desktop multimedia 300 MHZ computers with monitors, two Hewlett Packard scanners, and two Hewlett Packard printers. Cash prizes will also be distributed.

## Newcomers meeting set for Wednesday, March 24 at 12:30

Are you new to the Alabama College System or to the ACA Conference? Do you have questions about the conference, the concurrent sessions, interest groups, commissions and more? If so, the Newcomers Meeting is for you.

Whether you're a first-time attendee or are returning to the ACA Conference after an absence, you are invited to attend the Newcomers Meeting on Wednesday, March 24 at 12:30 p.m.

The Newcomers Meeting is designed to help conference newcomers feel comfortable and welcome. ACA Executive Committee members will be on hand to answer questions, provide information and welcome those new to the system or ACA to this professional development event.

Under the direction of Faculty Chair Randy Cox, the meet-

ing will last only about 30 minutes. The informal session will allow new conference-goers to meet each other and to meet some Executive Committee members.

The first-ever Newcomers Meeting was held at the previous conference (Fall 1997). Based on surveys of those attending and personal comments, the meeting is being repeated this year.

"Although our meeting was small in '97, many of those attending made a point of seeking me out later in the conference to express their appreciation," said Barbara Anne Spears, who hosted the meeting with Dr. Elsa Price. "The conference overview and information helped to clarify the format for newcomers and allowed them to ask questions in a small, informal setting."



## Candidates for ACA Second Vice-President

The election for ACA Second Vice-President will be conducted during the upcoming weeks. Biographical information on candidates follows. Results will be announced at the 1999 ACA Conference.

### McAlpine



Dr. Johnny W. McAlpine, Jr. is president of Snead State Community College. He served as dean of student services at Snead State from 1992 until 1997, director of counseling services from 1990 until 1992, and counselor/placement coordinator from 1988 until 1990. He served as assistant principal of Gadsden High School from 1986 until 1988 and worked as purchasing agent and director of personnel at J.F. Drake State Technical College from 1984 un-

til 1986. In this variety of roles, McAlpine has been directly responsible for many activities ranging from supervision of student dormitories and orientation programs to coordinating and supervising all equipment, supplies and contracts. He began his career in education as an industrial arts teacher with the Gadsden City Schools.

McAlpine holds an Ed.D. in educational administration from The University of Alabama. His dissertation topic was "Strategies Related to Improving Retention of Alabama Two-Year Community College Students: Perceptions of Administrators, Faculty and Students."

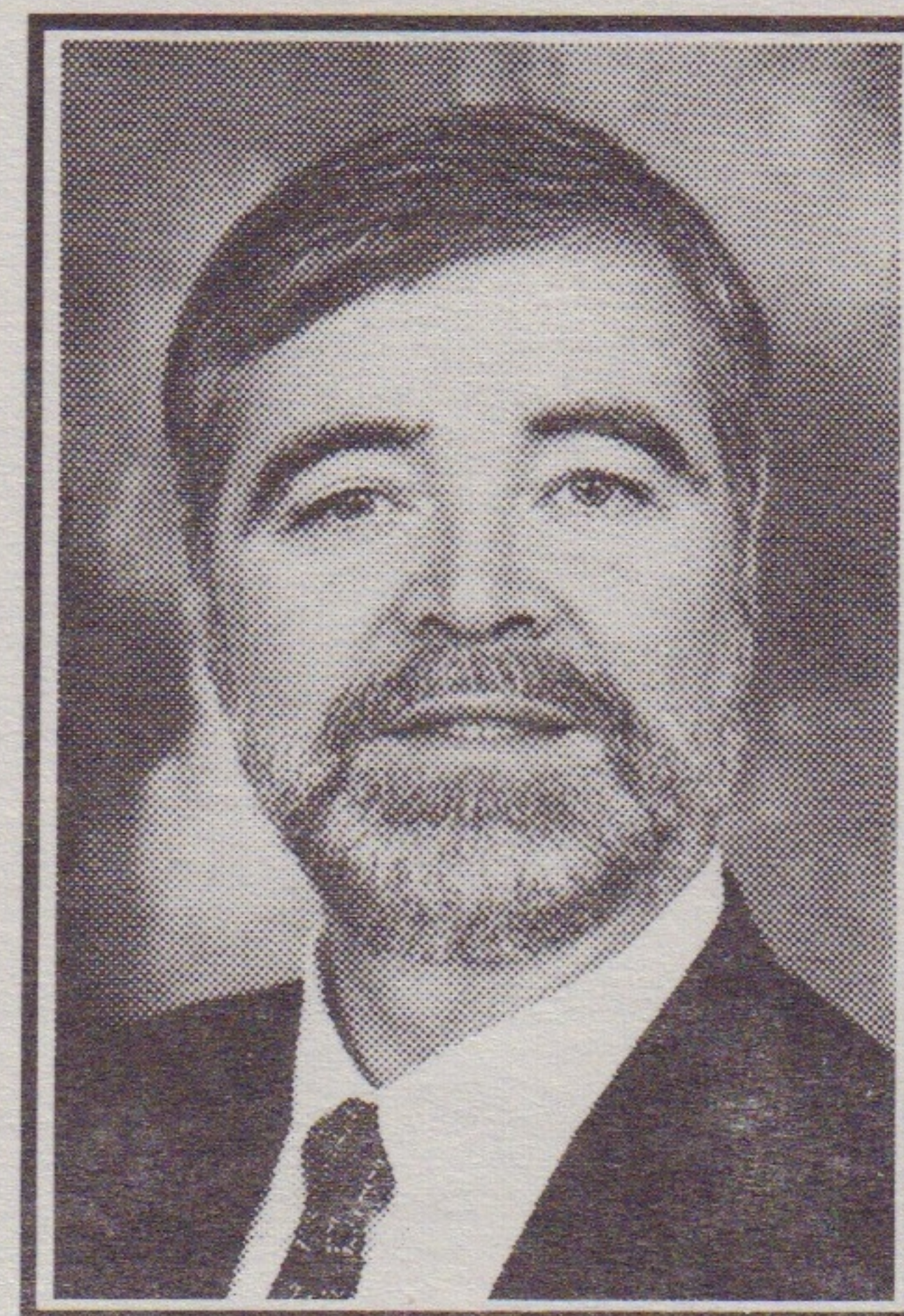
He earned a master of science in educational administration at The University of Alabama and a master of science in personnel counseling at Jacksonville State University. McAlpine earned the bachelor of science degree in agricultural education/general science at Alabama A&M University.

His professional affiliations include membership in the Alabama Education Association and National Education Association. McAlpine is a member of the Alabama Community College Dean of Students Affairs Association and a member of the executive board of the Dean of Student Affairs Association. He also serves as a accreditation team member for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

McAlpine is a board member for the Marshall County Jobs program and a member of the Marshall County American Red Cross. He serves on the board of the Marshall County Attention Home. In addition, McAlpine is a member of the Rotary Club and Chamber of Commerce in Boaz. He is also a member of the First Missionary Baptist Church in Huntsville, Alabama.

### Shope

Mark L. Shope is dean of student affairs at Wallace Community College (Dothan). He has served on several Department of Postsecondary Education statewide committees charged with developing policy and writing the 700 and 800 sections of the State Board Policy Manual. During 1995-96, he served The Alabama Deans of Student Affairs Association as vice president/president elect and secretary/treasurer; and, in



this capacity, he published the first regularly distributed newsletter for the Association. He served the Association as president in 1996-97 and is currently serving on the Executive Committee as the newsletter editor.

After attending Jacksonville State University, Shope earned the B.S. degree and the M.S. degree from Troy State University. He has completed work beyond the masters at Troy State University and The University of Alabama with an emphasis in educational law.

Shope has served the Alabama College Association as vice-chair and chair of the Commission on Administration and as a presenter for the annual conference. His community leadership includes service to Youth Leadership Dothan as chairman of the steering committee and a member of the Board of Trustees.

Shope is a graduate of both Leadership Dothan and Wiregrass Leadership Institute. He has served the National Peanut Festival as chairman of the board, president, and entertainment chairman, booking such acts as John Berry, Marshall Tucker, Billy Dean, and the Kinleys. He has also been involved in other community service with the Wiregrass Mental Health Center, Parents Anonymous, and the Dothan/Houston County Chamber of Commerce.

He has worked extensively in all areas of student development, including athletics and academic competition. As dean of student affairs, Shope has engineered innovative changes in student development with emphasis on student success from an enrollment management perspective as evidenced by his efforts to merge admissions, records, financial aid, and selling into an enrollment services division.



## Murray named Kellogg Fellow

Charles Murray, assistant dean for instruction at Bessemer State Technical College, was selected along with 19 others from across the country for the 1998-99 Expanding Leadership Diversity in Community Colleges program. The program is coordinated by the League for Innovation in the Community College in collaboration with The University of Texas at Austin.

The project is supported by a \$1.5 million three-year continuation grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation to prepare community college educators for key decision-making positions in community colleges giving special attention to minorities and those serving urban institutions. A main purpose of the project is to identify and prepare those currently in faculty, leadership or administrative mid-management positions for senior administrative positions in community colleges. During the yearlong program, the Kellogg Fellows participate in two one-week seminars and other intensive professional development activities.

## Anthony chosen for fellowship

Bessemer State Technical College's Cynthia Anthony was one of 30 educators selected to participate in the 1998-99 Mississippi Community College Fellowship program sponsored by Mississippi State University.

The Community College Fellows assembly, for which Anthony was selected, is organized and sponsored by Mississippi State University's educational leadership department. The Phil Hardin Foundation of Meridian, the Mississippi Board for Community and Junior Colleges and the participating community colleges provide program support. The focus of the program is to help nurture and prepare the next generation of community college leaders. Anthony, the assistant dean of students at Bessemer State, is one of only three Alabamians selected for the fellowship program.

## Bland named outstanding member

Mrs. Glenda Bland, counselor at Central Alabama Community College, was recognized this by the Alabama Counseling Association (ALCA) and the Alabama Multicultural Counseling and Development Organization (ALAMCD) as Outstanding Member for ALAMCD. The award was made during the ALCA annual fall conference in Mobile.

Bland has been a member of both organizations for several years.

"Mrs. Bland earned this award due to her supportive effort, diligence and excellent service rendered as an executive officer of the association," said Barbara G. Chatman, ALAMCD past president. "She served two consecutive years as ALAMCD secretary and has been a great asset to the organization."

## Steelcase Foundation funds interactive classroom at Athens

Steelcase has contributed \$59,000 to equip an interactive classroom at Athens State University.

The grant was awarded this fall through the Steelcase Corp., and has supported several Athens and Limestone County projects over the years.

"We are extremely grateful to Steelcase for this funding," said Athens State President Jerry Bartlett.

"We truly appreciate the support we received for this from Steelcase-Athens, particularly plant manager Don Clark and human resource manager Sandy Locke."

The funds will equip an 80-seat classroom in the university's new \$2.4 million classroom building located off Pryor Street. The university is currently moving its distance learning center from the Carter Physical Education Center to the new classroom building. The Steelcase grant will allow the classroom to be linked with the distance learning center. Besides being used as part of the distance learning center, the classroom will function as a regular classroom on a daily basis.

The grant will be used to purchase microphones, television monitors, cameras and telecommunications hardware and software to make the classroom functional.

"This will give our students experience with the new technologies of the classroom," said Dr. Richard Boyd, dean of academic affairs.

"It creates what I call a 'smart classroom' where technology assists in the learning process. Our education students particularly will benefit because they will have an understanding of how to use technology as an educational tool."

The classroom was expected to be operational by January 1999.

The distance learning center, funded by the Elk River Development Project, is open for meeting and training use by business, industry and government agencies. The center can link through compressed video with sites throughout the world. The facility links through an ISDN line and provides audio and video capabilities that permit two-way interactive communication in near real-time. By technologically connecting the 80-seat classroom with the distance learning center, there will be opportunities for large groups to conduct meetings and training sessions.

"This is a great way to limit travel costs and provide training from distant sites," said Boyd. "Already, the center has been used by one firm to conduct meetings with associates in Canada."

**To register for the 1999 ACA Conference, see registration information on page 31.**



## Wallace State-Hanceville English, history instructors publish

Two Wallace State-Hanceville instructors have recently published books.

Dr. Mellania Johnson of the English Department faculty has just published *Dr. Mell's Mind Expanding Grits*, a book of important quotations by notable Southerners. The book is built around the "Seven Signs of Southernness" identified by her brother, artist Benn Johnson: experssing, timeweaving, rooting, accomodating, gathering, embracing, and twining. Her book seeks to define Southerners not through how other people see them but "with our own voices," as Southerners see themselves. Dr. Johnson wrote the book to increase appreciation of Southern literature among her students. Part of the proceeds from the sale of each book will be donated to southern libraries to expand Southern literature collections.

The book, with related T-shirts, coffee mugs, etc., befitting a new fad, has been made widely available in regional Books-A-Million stores and can be ordered through any regular bookstore or the Internet at [www.southernness.com](http://www.southernness.com). Copies are also available at the Wallace State-Hanceville bookstore.

Negotiations are under way for national distribution and Dr. Johnson has been interviewed about her book on FOX-TV. She has been busy with other interview and book signings in addition to her usual slate of English and literature classes.



Johnson, left, and Davis

Robert S. Davis, Jr., the director of the Family & Regional History Program, Wallace State's public collection for genealogical research and classes in family history studies, has just published *Cotton, Fire & Dreams: The Robert Findlay Iron Works and Heavy Industry in Macon, Georgia*. Originally begun as a project for a friend who had bought a stationary steam engine 15 years ago, the research for this book has taken Davis to swamps in Florida, villages in Scotland, and seemingly everywhere in between. His book can be ordered through any regular book store or through the book

dealers on the Internet. He has also published more than 50 articles in professional historical, educational, library, and archival journals.

In genealogy, he has published some 30 other books and more than 600 articles. This spring, he will be publishing, through Mercer University Press, *Requiem for a Lost City: Sallie Clayton's Memoirs of Civil War Atlanta and the Old South*.

Currently he is working on new guides to Alabama and Georgia research. The former will be available through the University of Mississippi Press late next year.

## Ewell Smith Scholarship established at Athens State University

A scholarship to honor one of the hardest working organizers of the Tennessee Valley Old-Time Fiddlers Convention has been established at Athens State University.

The Ewell P. Smith Endowed Scholarship has been established by the Tennessee Valley Old-Time Fiddlers Association. The announcement was made in October prior to the convention's final competitions. The association will donate \$15,000 from this year's proceeds to endow the scholarship with the Athens State University Foundation. The annual scholarship will be available to students from all disciplines attending Athens State. The foundation has 27 endowed scholarships which are awarded to deserving students each year.

Smith is the dean of financial affairs at Athens State. For 30 years, he has given thousands of hours toward coordinating and planning the annual Fiddlers Convention. He serves as co-chair of the Fiddlers Association. The convention has grown tremendously. This year, approximately 16,000 people attended. Because of his efforts, the convention has been named a Top 20 event by the Southeast Tourism Society for several years.

"Ewell is the driving force behind this convention," said Athens State President Jerry Bartlett. "He is the reason this convention has been such a success over the years. We are all deeply indebted to him for making the first weekend in October one to remember each year."



## Athens State School of Business receives national accreditation

Athens State University School of Business has received accreditation from the Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP), a national organization responsible for professional accreditation of business schools and programs in colleges and universities.

Athens State is one of 200 schools of business in the nation that have achieved professional accreditation from ACBSP. There are approximately 2,400 institutions of higher education in the U.S. that have business programs in the five traditional fields of business education -- accounting, business administration, finance, management and marketing. The mission of

the ACBSP is to establish, promote, and recognize educational standards that contribute to the continuous improvement of business education and to recognize business schools that adhere to these standards. ACBSP accredits business degree programs for small to mid-size baccalaureate/graduate institutions.

Institutions seeking ACBSP accreditation must demonstrate compliance with standards that include curriculum, faculty qualification, scholarly activity of the faculty, classroom, library, computer facilities, and outcomes assessment. The most important characteristic is the commitment to teaching excellence by the faculty.

## Calhoun Community College receives \$725,000 grant

U.S. Congressman Bud Cramer recently announced the awarding of a three-year, \$725,000 grant to Calhoun from the Corporation for National Service to initiate an Americorps program. In a press conference at Calhoun, Cramer announced that the college would begin receiving funding on October 1, 1998.

Calhoun President Richard Carpenter said that the Americorps program is a partnership among Calhoun, the City of Decatur, and the Decatur City School System. The program is a response to a national "call to action" made by President Clinton, former Presidents Bush, Carter and Ford, former First Lady Nancy Reagan, and Gen. Colin Powell at last year's Presidents' Summit for America's Future.

The program will provide for 20 paid Americorps members who will work with youth in the Decatur area while earning a stipend applicable to postsecondary education at the conclusion of a year of service. Americorps members may also take classes at Calhoun during their year of service. According to Laura Hall, special assistant to the president for institutional effectiveness and coordinator of the Americorps program, the Americorps members must be at least 17 years of age, have received a high school diploma or GED, and must meet the task-related eligibility requirements established for the program.

According to Carpenter, the program will address three of the fundamental resources needed by youth that were stressed

at the national Presidents' Summit: a caring adult for every youth, safe and secure places and structured activities for youth during non-school hours, and a sound education leading to marketable skills. Specifically, the Calhoun Americorps Program will support the America Reads Initiative and the goal of ensuring that all children can read well and independently by the end of the third grade as helping to reduce drop-out rates of at-risk students. Under the program, the 20 Americorps members will work in schools providing tutoring and other forms of academic assistance during the school day and in the extended day program. Members will also work with Decatur Youth Services to expand the supervised activities and programs available to youth during after school hours and during the summer months.

The Americorps members will be provided with training at Calhoun in their assignments and in other workplace skills and will be involved in volunteer service in the community during their service year. The Volunteer Center of Morgan County and the American Red Cross are assisting with the program.

Carpenter said he expects many of the Americorps members to attend Calhoun during their Americorps experience or following their year of service.

Deania Johnson recently joined the college as director of the program. She will be assisted in the administration of the program by assistant director Sonya Larson.

## Quality Jeep donates vehicle to Shelton State Community College

Shelton State Community College recently received a new Jeep Cherokee to be used for instruction by the college's automotive technology department.

"DaimlerChrysler and Quality Jeep donated this Jeep Cherokee so that the students enrolled in the automotive program at the college receive all the educational advantages DaimlerChrysler Corpo-

ration and Shelton State have to offer," said Verta Barr-Meherg, Quality Jeep owner. "We are committed to improving automotive services to customers in West Alabama while at the same time promoting greater educational opportunities for future automotive technicians."

"We are deeply appreciative to Quality Jeep and Mrs. Meherg for their con-

tinued support of Shelton State Community College," said Tom Umphrey, president. "Our students as well as DaimlerChrysler customers have much to gain from this donation as it allows additional educational opportunities for automotive technicians and ensures DaimlerChrysler owners they will receive the best automotive care possible."



## Morris appointed new basketball coach for Snead State

Snead State Community College announces the appointment of Harold Morris as basketball coach.

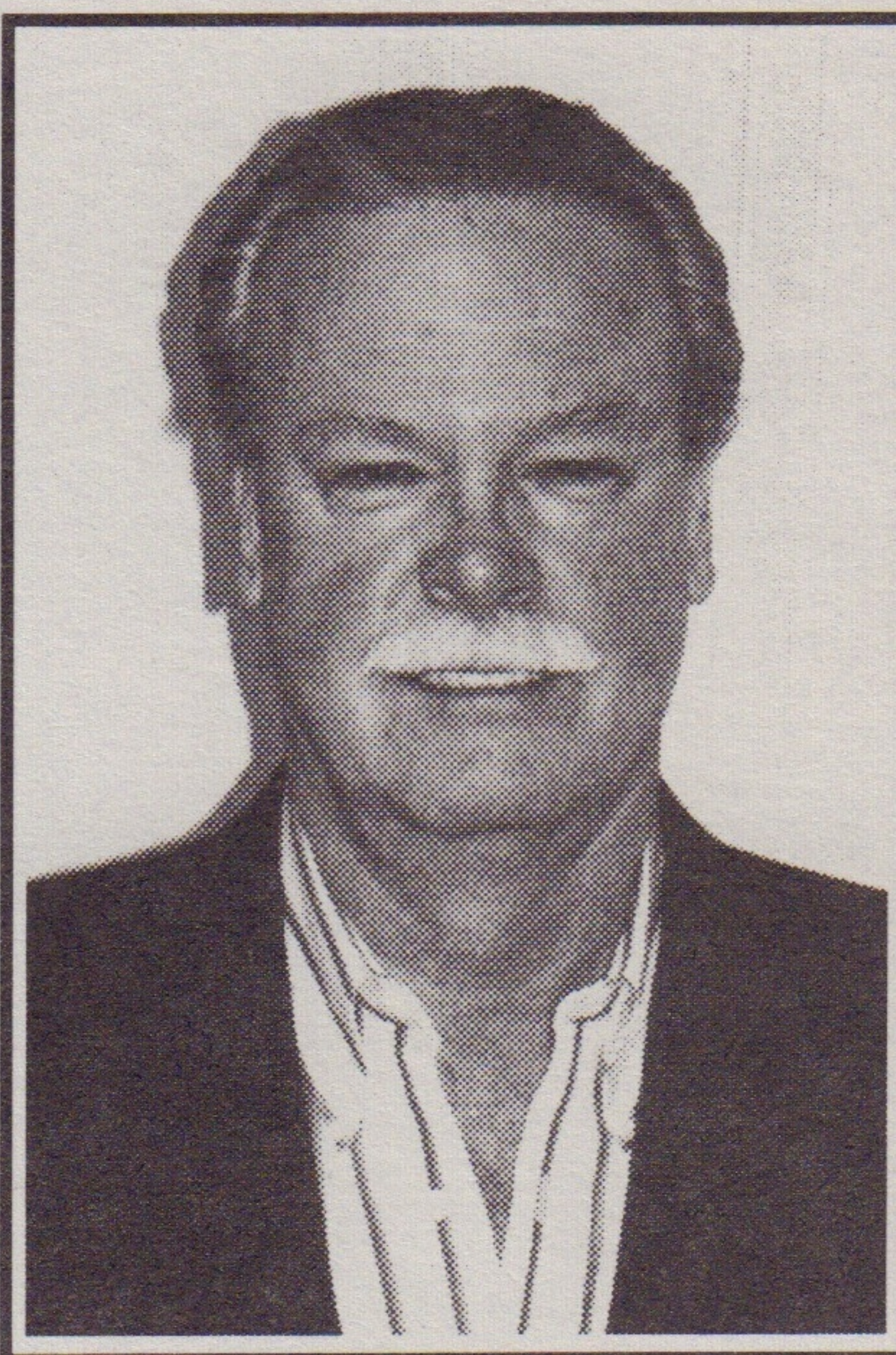
"The best two years of my life were spent at Snead College," Morris said.

"I met my wife, Margaret Gibbs from Oneonta, while we were students here, and my life-long career goal has been to come back and coach basketball."

As a former All-American player for the late Coach Emmett Plunkett, the 6'7" Morris has kept his ties with Snead College since his playing days from 1959 to 1961. He has served as president for the Snead College Athletic Booster Club and Alumni Association.

After his two years as a student at Snead, Morris attended the University of Georgia with a full scholarship as a starting player during his junior and senior years there.

With a 17-year winning career in coaching basketball, Morris has several recognitions to his name: two-time Coach of the



Morris

Year by the Georgia Athletic Association, numerous trips to the state tournament in the final-four slot, coordinator and developer for the largest high school Christmas tournament in Georgia and several years 100 percent student athlete eligibility.

"I am following some excellent coaches at Snead College," Morris said.

"For example Brent McCoy was named 1998 Alabama's Coach of the Year, Gid Riddle achieved a tremendous winning record, and John Kitchens had a very successful career as men's coach and now as women's coach.

"Of course," he said, "Snead athletics is still benefiting from the work of Coach Emmett Plunkett, who established the tradition that involves college and community in a combined effort to attain a successful program."

Originally from Gadsden, Coach Morris and his wife live in Owens Cross Road. They have two grown sons.

## Radiology instructor receives award Gadsden State for health partnerships

Terrie Gammon, a Wallace State-Hanceville radiology instructor since 1994, has won the Who's Who Among America's Teachers award, an award she received from the nomination submitted by one of her former students. Gammon, a Jasper native, was graduated from Wallace State-Hanceville with an associate in applied science degree in radiology. She continued her education at UAB and received a bachelor of science degree in allied health.

The honor was exceptionally gratifying because it originated from a successful former student, Sherre Justo, a 1997 Wallace State graduate now working at Children's Hospital. Justo recommended Gammon because, she said, "She made a difference in my life."

"I was very flattered and shocked," Gammon said. "I hope that I make a difference in all my students' lives." She tries to do this, she said, by making herself available to students both in and out of the classroom.



Gammon

"We attend state meetings and do extracurricular events such as playing softball," Gammon said. "I also offer after-class tutoring, which several students take advantage of. We have approximately 60 students in the program this semester."

Gadsden State Community College, in partnership with Quality of Life Health Services, Etowah County Health Department, Riverview Regional Medical Center, Gadsden Regional Medical Center, Head Start, Greater Gadsden Housing Authority, Gadsden City Schools, Southern Christian Leadership Conference and the Martin Luther King Observance Committee conducted a Health Awareness Week January 18-22. The week began with a one-day health fair in conjunction with the annual celebration of Dr. King's birthday on the 18th. Health screenings, awareness and prevention programs, and workshops continued throughout the week citywide. Health Awareness Week was coordinated by Tarva Vaughn, director of GSCC's LPN program.

The partnership will also conduct a Youth Service Day in March and a Volunteer Festival in April. Deborah Beverly, director of counseling services at GSCC, will coordinate the Volunteer Festival.





## Young, right, accepts certificate from Schooler Sparks State commended by Council on Occupational Education

Sparks State Technical College received a special citation to fall from the Council on Occupational Education (COE) for twenty-five years of accreditation.

Ms. Sue P. Schooler, associate director of COE, made the presentation to Dr. Linda C. Young, president of Sparks State Technical College, at a reception at the Bevill Center for Applied Technology.

When Sparks State Technical College was first established in 1966, the college offered nine programs and served 100 students. Today, Sparks offers 16 technical programs through both day and evening classes and serves 760 students.

On behalf of the Council on Occupational Education, Ms. Schooler commended the faculty and staff of Sparks for providing high quality career and workforce development opportunities to the students and communities it serves.

## Shelton State counts down to the new millennium

Shelton State Community College celebrates 1999 with a year-long millennium celebration for the purpose of positioning the college for life in the year 2000 and beyond.

"Years from now, events of the next few years will be used as benchmarks in our culture for life in the 21st century," said Shelton President Tom Umphrey. "At Shelton State, we believe we have a responsibility as the community's college to prepare for this new time."

The theme, "Shelton State -- for the next 1000 years" will be used throughout the celebration. Five "millennium evenings" are scheduled during the year. The first is a forum at Shelton's new Bean-Brown Theatre entitled "Alabama -- Looking at the 21st Century."

This forum, which was held January 19, featured state leaders including Elmer Harris, president of Alabama Power; Bill O'Connor, Alabama Business Council; Larry Lankford, mayor of Fairfield; and Umphrey of Shelton State.

The second event featured a motivational speech by race car driver Bobby Allison. The focus of the speech was the value of technical training.

The third event on February 1 celebrated Black History Month. The theme for this evening was "Celebrating Black Future -- Economic Empowerment for the New Millennium." Local and state leaders participated in the program.

On April 23, nationally recognized Alabama artist William Christenberry will visit Shelton's Alabama Power Recital Hall for the fourth millennium evening. Christenberry is recognized as one of the outstanding southern artists.

The final millennium evening will be held Sept. 23 when John Berendt, author of *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil*, will speak at the Bean Brown Theatre.

Other millennium events scheduled for 1999 at Shelton State include a career fair, a 5K run, concerts, homecoming and many other activities. A grand finale event will be held in January 2000 along with a hot air balloon race in the spring of 2000.

## Ayers State offers unique opportunity for professional development

With qualified interpreters for deaf and hearing impaired students being scarce and in high demand, the need for Ayers State to train its own interpreters became apparent. As a professional development program, the goal is for the school to be able to train its own employees to be certified interpreters so that the college can more efficiently serve its students.

Ms. Bridget Burney, dean of student

services, organized the class which began in October.

"By offering interpreter training as professional development," she said, "we are able to help our employees develop new skills which in turn helps them to serve our student body in a more effective manner."

Participation has been wide and varied on campus with representatives from

all areas of the college, including faculty members from all divisions, administrators, Learning Resource Center staff and Student Services staff.

Participants have been joined by teachers from Talladega and Calhoun county schools in the first eight-week segment of training. The course was taught by Margaret Wade from the Alabama Institute for the Deaf and Blind.



# Technology Center to built at Central Alabama

On election day, the future of Central Alabama Community College was forever changed through the vote of the people of Alabama. On that day, the statewide passage of Amendment 4 paved the way for a \$5.7 million bond issue to support a Center for Excellence on the Central Alabama Community College Alexander City campus.

The technology center, which will be financed with bonds issued through the agriculture department, will be used as a research and promotional facility for the textile industry and other businesses and industries throughout the state. The building will be named the Betty Carol Graham Building at the request of then-Commission of Agriculture Jack Thompson in honor of Graham for her efforts in making this center a reality. Graham is dean of enrollment services



Graham

at CACC and represents District 81 in the Alabama House of Representatives. The building and its name were recently approved by the State Board of Education.

According to Graham, who proposed and helped draft the legislation, the center will enhance industry in Alabama through a combination of educational and technical assistance and tech-

nology transfer among industries in the state.

"As we approach the new century," Graham said, "there's going to be so much technology involved that we've got to have the support system we need to keep industry strong."

That support system is being felt through the efforts of the Alabama Technology Network, she said, which operates ten centers across the state. One of those centers, the Center for Textile and Apparel Technology, is located at CACC and will be housed in the new facility.

"We must ensure that when new industries come into our area to look at us that we are prepared," Graham said. "We can't answer questions about workforce training with a blank look on our faces."

Dr. James H. Cornell, CACC president, said the new building will bring great benefit to the entire community and service area.

"This new center brings a world of opportunity to the doorstep of Central Alabama Community College," he said. "We are proud to be a part of the change and growth that triumphs over the arrival of a new millennium."

## CVCC Foundation receives generous financial support

Columbus philanthropist Elena Amos said she believes that Chattahoochee Valley Community College gives people a second chance at life. Because of that belief, she is helping the college to provide this second chance.

Amos has pledged financial support to the CVCC Foundation, a fund-raising group that was recently reactivated. The Foundation was established to raise funds to increase use of technology both in the classroom and for the faculty, to upgrade and update the Learning Resource Center on campus, and to provide scholarship opportunities for students. Amos' donation to the college was used to purchase 35 computers and printers, three laptop computers and two multimedia video projectors.

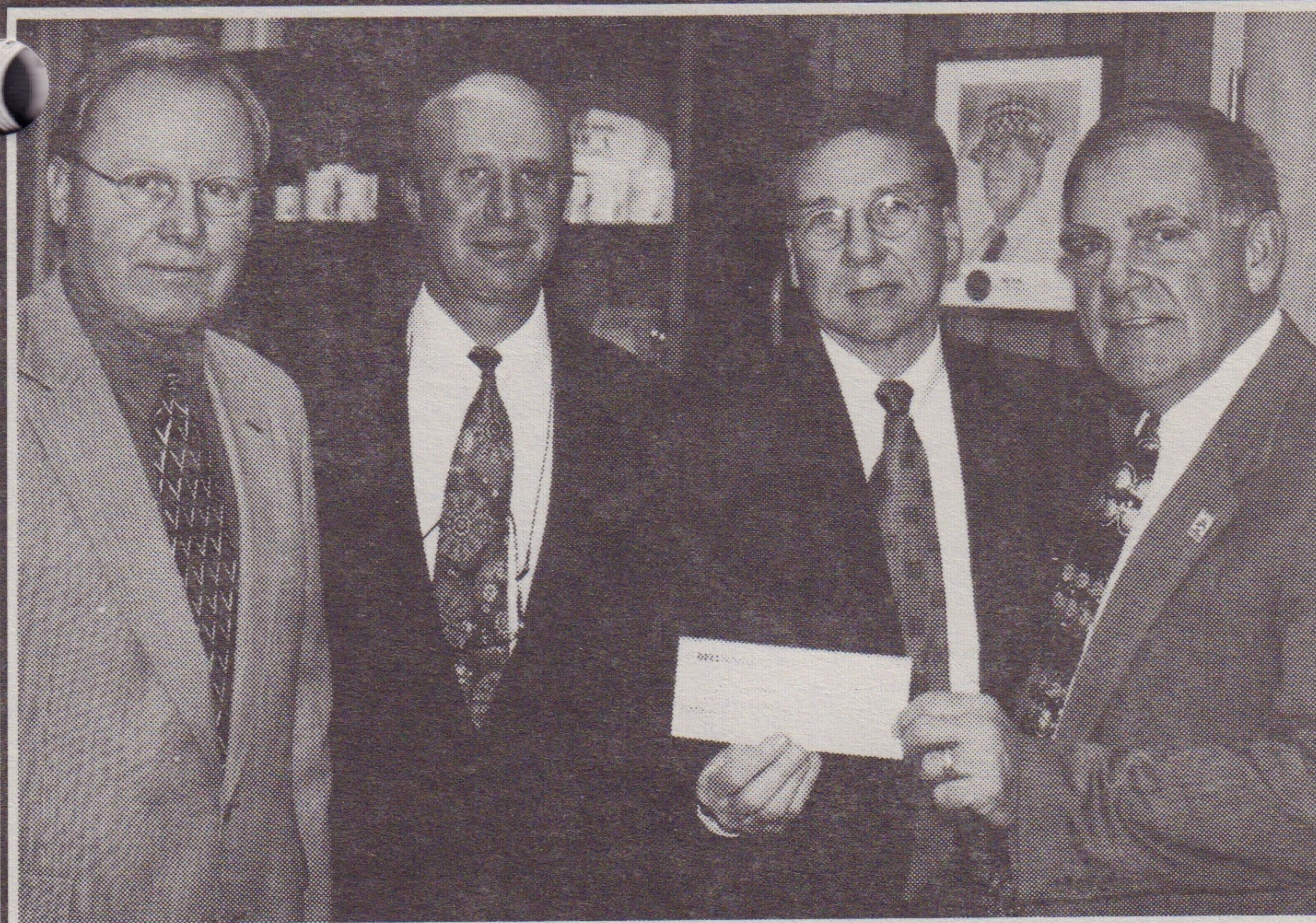
CVCC faculty members now enjoy having a personal computer in their offices that allows them to register students and help them with their degree of study plans. The laptop computers and multimedia projectors also allow the faculty to use state-of-the-art technology in their classrooms.

"This is an exciting time to be a part of the CVCC family," said Belle Lee, chair of institutional advancement and director of the foundation. "This institution has been a partner in the growth and challenges in Russell County. There is no end to what we, as the community's hometown college, can offer."



Amos, left, talks with CVCC faculty member





### BellSouth partnership

Representatives of BellSouth presented Northwest-Shoals Community College with a \$1,000 check as part of their continuing partnership with the school to assist students in need of financial assistance. BellSouth has funded a scholarship program at Northwest-Shoals for the past ten years. Pictured from left are Bobby Denton, director of development and the college foundation; George Winters, manager of the BellSouth Huntsville and North Alabama District; Jim Glennon, BellSouth account manager for north Alabama; and Dr. Larry McCoy, Northwest-Shoals president.

## Pickett attends collision repair meeting in Kansas City, Mo.

Reid State Technical College collision repair specialist Linda Pickett is probably the only female collision repair specialist in the two-year college system.

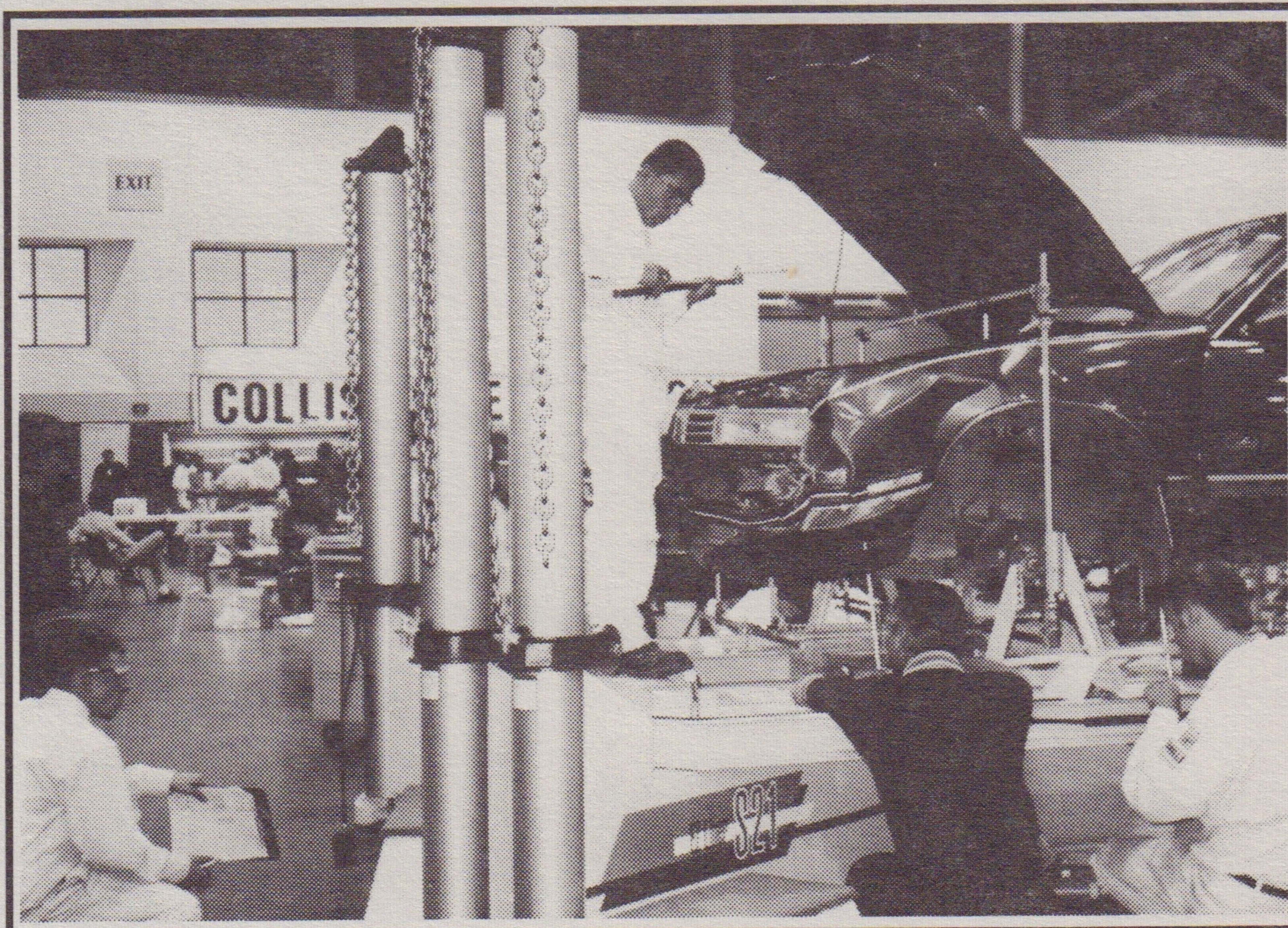
This June, she attended the Collision Repair Instructor's Network (CRIN) conference in Kansas City, Missouri, at the Lincoln Electric Training Center. CRIN was organized by the I-CAR Education Foundation as a means for collision repair educator to stay connected with each other and utilize the networking of ideas and information.

Aluminum welding class was conducted by an I-CAR instructor before and after the meeting. Stations were available for anyone willing to try their hands-on welding skills on aluminum coupons.

As part of her visit, Pickett attended the national VICA competitions in Kansas City. As a first-timer to this event, Pickett was somewhat overwhelmed.

"The competitors were tagged to be outstanding with comments such as 'these kids are the cream of the crop' or 'the future of tomorrow's job market'," Pickett

Collision Repair Technology had a large competition at the VICA gathering with more than 100 students competing



### Collision repair meeting draws experts from across the country

for the national award, she said. Competition areas included metal finishing, welding, painting, plastic repair, plastic identification, frame alignment, estimating and a comprehensive written exam.

Judging of this competition was very strict, with each participant being allowed to spend only a finite amount of time on each area of competition. Clothing of

each technical was predetermined by VICA rules. Participants were not allowed to speak to anyone except the judges.

Pickett began her career at Reid State as a student with a goal to restore a 1970 Dodge Challenger TA which was a gift from her husband. Her diligence and student-oriented attitude led to her employment in the collision repair department.



# Northeast Alabama partners with U.S. Gypsum

The U.S. Gypsum Plant at Bridgeport is nearing completion with production scheduled to start up during the second quarter of 1999. U.S. Gypsum will produce a synthetic wallboard made from recycled flyash produced largely by TVA. Harvey Reimer, plant manager, said that 80-90 percent of their products will be made of recycled materials.

Reimer and seven department heads toured the facilities at Northeast Alabama Community College and took special interest in the hydraulics lab, programmable logic control (PLC) lab, basic electronics

lab, motor control lab, Learning Logic math lab, EMS labs, CAD lab, teleconference center, and newly acquired welding equipment. Reimer said he sees several opportunities for U.S. Gypsum and Northeast Alabama Community College to partner in short-term and long-term training efforts. He also said that he expects Northeast to be a valuable source of potential skilled employees.

Currently AIDT is in the process of conducting pre-employment assessment and Northeast anticipates providing assistance to AIDT in certain training areas.

PLC training was scheduled for U.S. Gypsum employees on the Northeast campus for January 1999.

Dr. Charles Pendley, president of Northeast Alabama Community College, states that he is pleased to have the opportunity to work with U.S. Gypsum management.

"We have had the pleasure of having several meetings with Mr. Reimer and members of his staff and have found them to be extremely cooperative and willing to include Northeast in their training plans," he said.

## Instructors bring volunteer experience to the classroom

Cliff Carlisle and Scott Karr, instructors in the emergency medical services and EMT-paramedic program at Beville State Community College, are bringing their experiences as volunteers with the National Disaster Medical Service back to the classroom to relate the value of emergency medical services to their students.

Carlisle and Karr were recently involved in a six-day deployment to the Florida panhandle during Hurricane Georges as part of the team consisting of medical technicians and professionals. According to Carlisle, the team was combined with a second unit from Atlanta and stood on alert as the hurricane made its way inland.

"Our mission was two-fold in that we were present to take care of an overflow which can result in hospitals during times of natural disaster and to also assist health care workers so they can attend to patients as well as care to their own families," Carlisle said. "Fortunately, injuries were light as compared to the predictions and our assistance was not needed over a long period of time."

The deployment was the first actual real-life action for the statewide team and served as a valuable experience for the various types of medical and emergency medical personnel who volunteer to serve in the unit.

"The experience allowed us to bring practical lessons back to our students showing that emergency medical personnel from different areas can work together effectively as a team in an emergency situation," Carlisle said. "Emergency medical technicians and paramedics have a lot to offer on a day-to-day basis, but during an emergency situation they become even more important. In talking with our students, we are able to communicate the type of impact they can have in situations like we experienced."



### CVCC Day

Chattahoochee Valley Community College celebrated its 25th anniversary on Nov. 12. Phenix City Mayor Peggy Martin, center, presented Dr. Richard Federinko, CVCC president, with a proclamation denoting Nov. 12 as CVCC Day. More than 200 community members, alumni, and day and evening students celebrated the day with '70s style activities where all participated.

## Love completes Harvard studies

Roger Love, coordinator of Bishop State Community College's Small Business Institute for Safety and Health Training, recently completed a course of study at Harvard University's School of Public Health, Center for Continuing Education. Subjects included leadership and management and risk management and liability issues for the safety health professional. The course focused on safety program management and legal and ethical implications of occupational health-related regulations.





Stallworth

## Nursing group elects president

Voncile McWilliams Stallworth, assistant director of nursing, associate degree nursing coordinator and psychiatric theory instructor at Bishop State Community College, has been elected District 8 president of the Alabama State Nurses' Association (ASNA)/American Nurses' Association (ANA). District 8 includes Baldwin, Escambia and Mobile counties.

Stallworth is a lieutenant colonel in the Army Reserve where she is assigned to the 4212th USAH in Johnson City, Tenn., and attached to the 1207th USAH in Fort Benning, Ga.

## T&L initiative named award finalist

The 1999 Community College FUTURES Assembly has selected The Alabama College System's Teaching and Learning Initiative as one of ten finalists for the 1999 Bellwether Award in the category of Instructional Programs and Services. The Bellwether Award was created to recognize outstanding and innovative practices that are successfully leading community colleges into the 21st century.

"The Alabama State Board of Education and The Alabama College System are honored that the teaching and learning initiative has been recognized for transforming faculty in achieving excellence in teaching and learning for the next century," said Dr. Fred Gainous.

The Alabama College System Teaching and Learning Initiative began in 1995 under the leadership of Dr. Gainous, chancellor of the Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education, and co-chairs Dr. Jorge Kuzmich, vice chancellor for instructional and student services, Department of Postsecondary Education, and Dr. Edward Meadows, president of Ayers State Technical College.

Over the past three years, approximately 1,000 faculty members in the two-year college

system have been involved in professional development conferences, workshops, and activities under the Teaching and Learning Initiative. The culmination of this initiative has resulted in an annual statewide Teaching and Learning Symposium and the development of five exemplary Teaching and Learning Models which are now being implemented in the Alabama two-year college system. This initiative and the five models for teaching and learning have been presented at the 1999 Community College FUTURES Assembly on March 1 in Orlando, Florida. Selected presentations will be published in the Community College Journal of Research and Practice. In addition, the finalists will be the guests of honor at the Bellwether Awards reception where each institution will receive a Bellwether finalist award. At the awards luncheon, three winners will be presented the exclusive 1999 Bellwether Award.

Gadsden State Community College, on behalf of the Northeast Alabama Economic Development Consortium, is also a finalist for the 1999 Bellwether Award in the category of Workforce Development.

## Cooper Lighting pairs with Sparks Tech

Employees at Cooper Lighting Eufaula facility are benefiting from an Alabama Partnership for Workforce Development (APWD) project between Cooper and Sparks State Technical College (SSTC). To prepare employees for rapid technological changes, Sparks Adult Education (AE) staff is using a 23-

step workplace education process that follows the state's workplace education model.

Based on input from Cooper management and on-site analysis of needs, a customized, job-specific curriculum has been developed for specific departments. Dana Hicks, local workplace education specialist, facilitates classes and

works in cooperation with a steering committee of Cooper Lighting employees.

Funding for the project was awarded by Alabama's State Department of Adult and Community Education. Ms. Betty Day, adult education director at Sparks, is the coordinator of the workforce development project.

## LBW College receives accreditation for paramedic program

Larry Ryland, director of emergency medical service at Lurleen B. Wallace Junior College, recently received the accreditation certificate for the Emergency Medical Services Paramedic program from the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs. The LBW EMS paramedic program is now one of only 103 accredited paramedic programs in the United States.

"Larry has produced a quality program in three years that it takes some institutions ten years to attain," said Dr. Daniel

Storer, chairman of the Commission on Accreditation, during the commission site visit.

In the first three years of the paramedic program, LBW has had one of the highest National Registry pass rates in Alabama. The program has produced paramedics who are now working throughout Alabama and Florida as well as Texas, Louisiana and New York.

"I am very proud of our EMS programs, our instructors, and our students at LBW," Ryland said.





Kennedy, left, presents award to Callahan

## Gulf of Mexico Program receives award

Congressman H. "Sonny" Callahan and James D. Giattina, representing the Gulf of Mexico Program, received awards December 2 for their support of Bishop State Community College's Environmental Protection and Information Center (EPIC), the area's first such center.

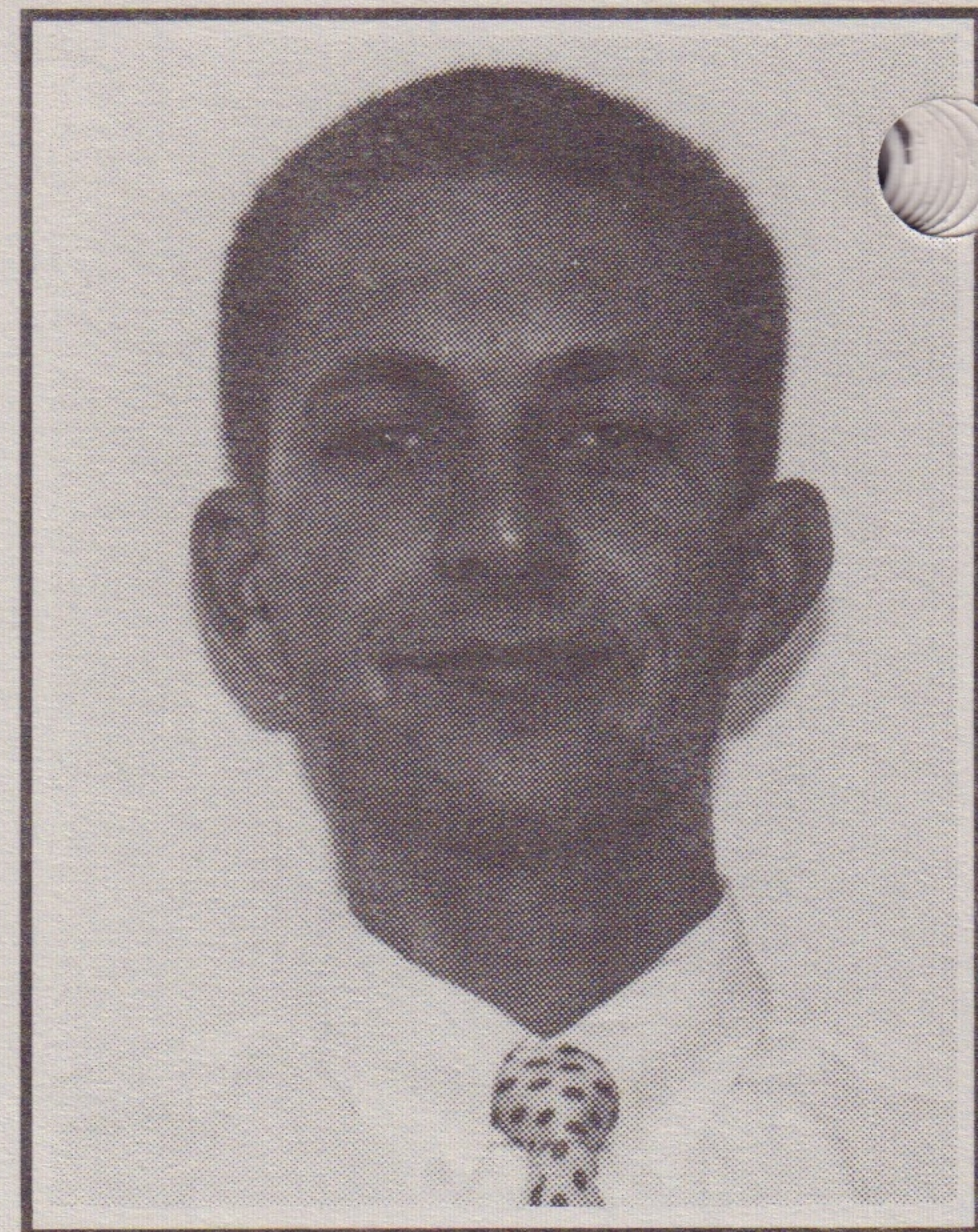
The Gulf of Mexico Program assisted Bishop State with grants of nearly \$300,000 over five years and ongoing technical assistance to use state-of-the-art computer technology and software.

Project EPIC was created to monitor the Gulf of Mexico area and offer geographic information systems services to business and government agencies on environment-related issues.

According to Dr. Eugene Meier, EPIC project coordinator for the Gulf of Mexico Program, helping Bishop State was a "win-win" situation.

"We now have a center that is a great information resource and provides training for students and the public on the use of geographic information computer technology," he said. "As a bonus, we develop a pool of professionals who we can draw upon to apply this technology to environmental solutions to protect the Gulf."

The Gulf of Mexico Program is also working with Jackson State University to fund a similar center and ultimately hopes to support centers in each of the Gulf Coast states at historically black colleges and universities.



Mallory Jenkins

## Instructor attends national convention

Mallory Jenkins, Reid State Technical College English instructor, attended the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) held in Nashville, Tennessee. The 88th annual convention was held Nov. 19-24 at the Opryland Hotel. The theme of the convention, "Learning with Our Students: Growing as Teachers," was reflected in a broad assortment of speeches, interactive workshops, and panel discussions.

The event drew teachers from across the nation and from a number of foreign countries. The presenters and facilitators as well as those attending the conference were representative of a spectrum of educational levels and situations from elementary classroom teachers to university researchers.

Along with sessions focused specifically on two-year college concerns were those focusing on curriculum, integrated curriculum, evaluation, language, listening/speaking, literature, media/technology, multilingual/bilingual, professional development, multicultural, reading, research, teacher issues/concerns, and teacher research. Also, a number of publishers and distributors of educational materials displayed their latest products in the Exhibit Hall.

## Drake State receives NSF internet grant

J.F. Drake State Technical College was awarded a \$13,580 grant by the National Science Foundation (NSF). This grant will assist in the support of campuswide internet connectivity in several buildings on campus. Because of this grant, students will be able to access the internet through three instructional labs, the Me-

dia Center, and the Career Center. Several administration and staff offices have also received access. NSF is an independent U.S. government agency responsible for promoting science and engineering through programs that invest annually over \$3.3 billion in almost 20,000 research and education projects.



## Ayers instructors complete training for *Wheels of Learning*

Two Ayers State faculty members recently completed training to be recognized as certified instructors for the *Wheels of Learning* training program. Gary Udaka is the program coordinator for welding at Ayers and is looking forward to the opportunities that his certification will bring.

"The *Wheels of Learning* program will help Ayers State faculty to be able to train workers for industry both locally and nationally, due to the standardized curriculum. This will help Ayers State to more effectively serve the needs of industry by training qualified personnel for entry into the workforce."

Mr. Dale Cox, the program coordinator in industrial electronics, is also looking forward to utilizing his certification with *Wheels of Learning*.

"With so many industries requiring their employees to be trained in the *Wheels of Learning* format, my certification as an instructor for *Wheels of Learning* will give Ayers State an opportunity to fill that need within the community."

Due to irregularities in teaching trades such as welding and electricity, industry has had difficulty in the past in hiring personnel with uniform training. The solution was developed through *Wheels of Learning*, the result of a partnership between Prentice Hall, a national textbook company, and the National Center for Construction Education and Research.

*Wheels of Learning* is recognized nationally by the construction industry to provide every craft worker with a benchmark for standards of craft, safety, and professionalism. As changes and advancements occur within trades, the curriculum is updated to remain relevant to the needs of industry. Trainees who successfully complete the program are eligible for national recognition with entry into the National Craft Training Registry which provides certificates and transcripts.



Wesley, left, accepts award from Castile

## Wesley earns AIDT Director's Award

Phyllis Wesley, media coordinator for Alabama Industrial Development Training, has been honored as the first-ever recipient of the AIDT Director's Award.

Wesley was selected for the honor from a field of coworkers nominated by their peers for outstanding performance and service to AIDT and to Alabama's citizens. AIDT Director Ed Castile made the final selection based on these nominations and his own observations.

AIDT, an institute under the Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education, is responsible for workforce recruitment and development for new and existing industries in Alabama.

"There is no question that Phyllis deserves this honor," Castile said. "She is an outstanding leader and ambassador for AIDT, and has distinguished both herself and AIDT in her service to the State of Alabama."

Wesley was praised for her success in marketing AIDT's services to the economic development and business communities. In addition, Castile cited her

efforts in the creation of the Alabama Training Exchange (ATX) and her coordination of its first statewide conference.

The ATX is designed to encourage business, industry, education and skills training personnel in the exchange of: training resources; assistance and support for employee training programs; identifying and showcasing best training practices; convening an annual conference to bring together training resources and users; links with Alabama businesses and industries, the Alabama College System, the Alabama Education system and other resources; and annual awards recognizing excellence in employee training programs.

Wesley holds a BA degree in journalism from Auburn University, an AA degree from Enterprise State Junior College, and is a member of the Public Relations Council of Alabama, the Alabama College System Public Relations Association, the Montgomery Area Business Communicators, and the Economic Development Association of Alabama.



## Discussions re-energize Northwest-Shoals, community

Northwest-Shoals Community college President Larry McCoy re-energized the school's service area by conducting a series of six round-table discussions with business, government and community leaders. Discussions focused on the responsiveness of the college to the needs of the area.

"The purpose of the meetings was to strengthen the bonds between the college and the community leadership," McCoy said. "It is too easy to assume you are serving your constituents because you continue to do what was asked in past years.

"Significant change has occurred in recent years," he continued. "The move to the semester system, changes in the economic structure of Northwest Alabama, and new technology impact more than just our staff, faculty and students. So my staff and I decided to hold a series of meetings and ask those we serve if Northwest-Shoals is effective in its role as a community college."

"We met with more than 200 leaders and gained important input regarding our business and industry training operations, dual enrollment/credit initiatives, and new program ideas in

distance learning," McCoy said. "The discussions were focused, informative and productive. We asked for opinions and they responded candidly and in a constructive manner."

The first group approached was the college's Advisory Council and the Northwest-Shoals Foundation Board of Directors. McCoy established a schedule of luncheon meetings to be held in Colbert, Franklin, Lauderdale, Lawrence and Winston counties.

The Advisory Council and Foundation Board members from those respective counties served as co-hosts assuring key leaders were invited and attended the meetings. State board member Sandra Ray also attended the meetings to hear the feedback gained by the Northwest-Shoals administration.

"The participants represented a cross section of our service area but each recognized that new educational programs partnered with business demands are critical to the economic health of Alabama," McCoy said. "The roundtable meetings confirmed which strengths we need to sustain and which deficiencies we must address first."

## CACC receives scholarship funding in honor of Russell Corp.

During the past year, Central Alabama Community College has received almost \$15,000 in scholarship funding from a benefactor across the country.

Last spring, Michael Nissman of M&N Company, located in Arizona and California, contacted the college's development office for information about scholarships. He quickly donated \$5,000 in honor of Russell Corporation; his gifts have since grown to almost \$15,000. One donation came in the form of a gift from Russell's JERZEES operation, which provides a *Gift to Education* each year based on sales to individual companies. Nissman, who had previously directed his *Gift to Education* to his own alma mater, chose to redirect these funds to CACC in order to increase the value of his scholarship.

Nissman works closely by phone with employees of Russell Corporation in his own business as he buys Russell products.

He said he believes that Russell Corporation and its employees have played a large role in his success; as a result, he established the M&N Scholarship in Honor of Russell Corporation.

Dr. James H. Cornell, CACC president, has been delighted and pleased by Nissman's generosity.

"Our relationship with the M&N Company is a real benefit to our college," Cornell said. "Mr. Nissman has not only honored Russell Corporation through his kind gifts but he has honored Central Alabama Community College as well."

"Mr. Nissman has proven to be a real friend to the students of Central Alabama Community College," said Barbara Anne Spears, development officer. "Through his continued generosity, we may soon be able to partially endow this scholarship so that his gift will continue to assist young people in this area for many years."

## Creel to present papers at national conventions

Gadsden State Community College instructor Gill Creel will present papers at two national conventions for English teachers this school year.

Creel spoke at the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) conference in the fall and will speak at the Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC) in March.

Creel's NCTE presentation focused on his research into ways that community college teachers choose to conduct their classes. At CCCC, he and another instructor will demonstrate using the term "community" as a focus for a writing class.

Creel was recently a panelist at the Minnesota Council of Teachers of English Fall Conference. In addition, his publications include an article in "Innovation Abstracts" and a forthcoming article in "Composition Chronicle."

**For registration  
and hotel  
information on  
ACA Conference '99,  
see page 31.**